

CLINICAL HEART DISEASE—Samuel A. Levine, M.D., F.A.C.P., Clinical Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School; Physician, The Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Boston; Consultant Cardiologist, Newton-Wellesley Hospital; Physician, New England Baptist Hospital. Fifth Edition, Illustrated. W. B. Saunders Co., Philadelphia and London, 1958. 673 pages, \$9.50.

The fifth edition of Levine's Clinical Heart Disease maintains the high standards of its predecessors and brings up-to-date much of the material. The two major additions to this new edition are a chapter on "Congenital Heart Disease" by Doctor Nadas of the Children's Hospital in Boston and a long section on "Electrocardiography" by Doctor Harold Levine of The Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston. The latter is more than 200 pages in length and is an excellent modern version of the subject which incorporates concepts of vectorcardiography as well as clinical electrocardiography. This section would be worth independent publication.

Doctor Levine's book is characterized by its lucid presentation of opinions substantiated by years of clinical experience, its intensely personal nature, and by its illustration of points that Levine chooses to make by succinct clinical histories. These last are usually short, sparkling accounts of events in patients that highlight diagnoses or therapy.

The author has maintained the purely personal aspect of the text by citing no references, making it clear that his remarks are his own opinions and based on his own experiences. This, of course, has advantages and disadvantages and assumes some knowledge of the field and is an additional source of reference material. The book, therefore, will not stand alone as a text in cardiology such as those by Wood, White and Friedberg; it is a superb adjunct by one of the masters of clinical cardiology in this country. It is highly recommended.

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SURGERY IN WORLD WAR II—Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology—Colonel John Boyd Coates, Jr., M.D., Editor in Chief; M. Elliott Randolph, M.D., Editor for Ophthalmology; Norton Canfield, M.D., Editor for Otolaryngology, Office of the Surgeon General, Department of the Army, Washington, D. C., 1957. For sale by Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., 605 pages, \$5.00.

This volume, which presents the history of ophthalmology and otolaryngology during World War II, was written by 24 medical officers in these two services during the war. The book is part of the overall history of surgery in World War II.

Ophthalmology, which is discussed in the first 378 pages, covers the activities in the Zone of the Interior, the Mediterranean Theater of Operations, the European Theater of Operations, and the Southwest Pacific and the Pacific Ocean Areas.

While of necessity there are many statistical accounts, there are portions that are of more than passing interest to the civilian ophthalmologist.

One of these is the account of the development of acrylic eyes which were developed by the combined cooperation of the Medical and Dental Corps. These artificial eyes had so many advantages over the glass eyes formerly used that their use has been adopted in civilian life.

Another thrilling episode is the 62-page account of the rehabilitation of blinded casualties as described by Dr. James N. Greear, Jr., who was the guiding light in initiating what soon became an outstanding blind program.

Also noteworthy in the volume is the very small number of cases of sympathetic ophthalmia observed in World War II.

Seven chapters of the book are devoted to Otolaryngology.

Of these, five chapters deal with the various phases of the aural rehabilitation program for the deafened and the hard of hearing. While this program was less extensive and considerably less satisfactory than the rehabilitation program of the blind, it did produce a good deal of knowledge which has been carried over to the peacetime Army program of the loss of hearing. In addition, the lessons learned have been carried over into the civilian care of the hard of hearing.

The chapter on facial paralysis in military personnel places particular emphasis on the methods of surgical repair of the facial nerve.

All in all the volume contains many things of interest to the civilian ophthalmologist and otolaryngologist.

The paper, type and illustrations are all excellent, and the general format is far superior to the similar publication following World War I.

FREDERICK C. CORDES, M.D.

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SYNOPSIS OF OTORHINOLARYNGOLOGY—John F. Simpson, F.R.C.S., Ian G. Robin, F.R.C.S., and J. Chalmers Ballantyne, F.R.C.S. John Wright & Sons, Ltd., Bristol, 1957. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, U. S. Agents. 443 pages, \$8.50.

As stated in the preface, this book is "intended for quick reference and revision for those who are studying for post-graduate examinations in this specialty." However, it is much more comprehensive than the authors modestly state. It should be useful as a reference not only to the ones mentioned, but to otolaryngologists, general practitioners and also to various lay groups, such as teachers, physiologists and lawyers interested in medico-legal problems. It gives a synopsis of all parts and phases of the ear, nose and throat, including embryology, anatomy, physiology and treatment. Surgical principles are described but no detailed techniques are attempted, as they are not within the scope of the book. There are 88 excellent drawings, which aid in explaining the text. The final section of "Diseases of the Nervous System in Relation to Otorhinolaryngology" is a welcome addition and includes intracranial complications, lesions of the cranial nerves, headache, facial pain, vertigo and speech and its disorders. The book is well written, concise and covers the subject completely. It should be on the shelf of every reference library.

LAWRENCE K. GUNDRUM, M.D.

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SYMPOSIUM ON DISEASES AND SURGERY OF THE LENS—Editor, George M. Haik, M.D., F.A.C.S., Professor of Ophthalmology, Louisiana State University School of Medicine; Associate Editor, Elizabeth M. McFetridge, M.A., Art Editor, Don Alvarado. C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1957. 260 pages, \$10.50.

This book is a newer approach to textbook instruction. It has an excellent practical resume of the embryology of the lens to begin the symposium.

The next chapters deal with types of cataracts both pre- and postnatal. Next in sequence is the surgical removal of the various types of cataracts. Following this is the treatment of complications.

Then follows a chapter on the vitreous and its relationship to cataracts and the removal of cataracts.

To me the most interesting portion of the book is the final chapter of round table discussions. These are basically clinical observations made by competent surgeons who have had decades of experience. This is a very enlightening book for an eye surgeon.

ALFRED R. ROBBINS, M.D.